

TRANSFORMING THE TAR HEEL STATE

THE LEGACY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN NORTH CAROLINA

Historical Facts about the Randolph County Public Library

Compiled by Adrian Whicker

Library Established

1936

Notable Librarians

Blanche C. Walker was Randolph County's first librarian. She began working at the library in 1936

First Bookmobile

Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds supplied a bookmobile and a driver in 1938 for one month to demonstrate the desirability of such service. In 1943, Randolph County was the recipient of a WPA surplus bookmobile (a Ford Truck) which went into service that same year.

Important Facts

Tess Harper, actress, researched her ancestry at the Randolph County Public Library as did Margaret Hoover Brigham, Herbert Hoover's granddaughter.

At one time, Randolph Public Library was designated the music lending library by the State Library of North Carolina and received special funding for purchase of folk, classical, jazz and popular music for lending throughout the state. In 1982, the library received a bequest from the estate of Mary Louise Swaim, a local music teacher, to "sponsor special concerts and to purchase books and materials in the field of music for both adults and children to add to the library's